Exploitation of tourism potential

1717. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey regarding the tourism potential yet to be exploited in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to identify and develop the potential tourist spots in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI
RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Government has prepared 20 Year Perspective Plans for the States/UT Governments with the broad objectives of:

(i) assessing the existing tourism scenario in the States;

(ii) reviewing the status of existing development/investment plans;

(iii) evaluating the existing potential tourist destinations;

(iv) developing sustainable tourism in a time period of 20 years;

(v) giving plans with short term and long term targets;

(vi) indicating the likely investment on infrastructure development under different heads; and

(vii) preparing an action plan for implementation of identified potential schemes/projects, and for development of infrastructure.

(c) Identification and development of potential tourist spots is the responsibility of the State/UT Governments. However, the 20 Year Perspective Plans prepared for the States have given State-wise details and the action plan for its implementation for identified potential development schemes/projects etc.

Baghlihar Hydel Project

1718. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the World Bank appointed expert on Baghlihar Hydel Project arbitration matter, has since visited the dam site for an on-the-spot assessment;